

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0692

EXDIS

E.O. 11965: XGDS-2
TAGS: PFOR, CY
SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS FOR VIENNA CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 055343

1. PER REFTEL, CHARGE MET WITH FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES MARCH 12.
CHARGE MADE POINTS IN REFTEL, PARA ONE, A, B, AND C, AND LEFT
SPEAKING NOTES BASED ON THOSE POINTS WITH CHRISTOPHIDES, HAVING
IN MIND THAT THE PAPER WOULD GO DIRECTLY TO THE ARCHBISHOP.

2. CHRISTOPHIDES ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION OF POINT C. HE ASKED
WHETHER MR. CLIFFORD'S UNDERSTANDING WITH ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS
WAS THAT GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE WOULD PREPARE A MAP WHICH WOULD
FORM THE BASIS FOR DISCUSSION OF THE TERRITORIAL ISSUE IN
VIENNA WITH TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE NOT EXPECTED TO PRESENT A MAP.
HE IMPLIED THAT ARCHBISHOP HAD NOT YET MADE IT CLEAR TO NATIONAL
COUNCILS THAT TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE IS NOT EXPECTED TO PRESENT
A MAP. COMMENT: THIS COULD EXPLAIN WHY GREEK CYPRIOT
NEGOTIATOR PAPADOPOULOS HAS CONTINUED TO SPEAK ABOUT REQUIRE-
MENT FOR A TURKISH CYPRIOT MAP. END COMMENT. CHARGE
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RESPONDED THAT IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT TURKISH CYPRIOTS
WOULD RESPOND IN A MEANINGFUL WAY TO GREEK CYPRIOT MAP BUT
HAD MADE NO COMMITMENT TO TABLE MAP THEMSELVES.

3. "SPEAKING PERSONALLY", CHRISTOPHIDES BELIEVED THAT THE
GREEK CYPRIOTS CARED THE MOST ABOUT TERRITORY. IT WOULD NOT
BE UNREASONABLE FOR THEM TO SUBMIT A MAP AND FOR THE TURKISH

CYPRIOT SIDE TO RESPOND. LIKEWISE, SINCE THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE IS MOST INTERESTED IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL ASPECT, IT WOULD APPEAR REASONABLE FOR THEM TO SUBMIT A DETAILED CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL TO WHICH THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE COULD RESPOND WITHOUT HAVING TO PRESENT A PROPOSAL. HE WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE CLARIFICATION OF US UNDERSTANDING OF AGREED NEGOTIATING PROCEDURE AS IT CAME OUT OF CLIFFORD TALKS WITH ARCHBISHOP AND OTHER LEADERS.

4. FONMIN WENT ON TO REITERATE GOC COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE USG WITH A COPY OF TERRITORIAL PROPOSAL MAP WELL IN ADVANCE OF VIENNA MEETING. HE COULD NOT, HOWEVER, GIVE A PRECISE DATE WHEN THIS WOULD BE DONE.

5. IN A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE STATUS OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE TALKS, CHARGE NOTED THAT ONE CONCERN IS LACK OF APPARENT MOVEMENT BY GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE TOWARD THE FULFILLMENT OF THE UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED BETWEEN MR. CLIFFORD AND ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS. CHRISTOPHIDES SAID US COULD BE ASSURED THAT ARCHBISHOP WOULD LIVE UP TO HIS COMMITMENTS. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT ARCHBISHOP DOES NOT LIKE TO GIVE DIRECT ORDERS TO NATIONAL COUNCIL. HE PREFERS TO PERSUADE COUNCIL MEMBERS TO COME TO THIS POINT OF VIEW THROUGH DISCUSSION AND EXPLANATION. THIS PROCESS IS GOING ON IN NATIONAL COUNCIL AT PRESENT TIME.

6. IN CONCLUSION, CHRISTOPHIDES SAID THAT US DEMARCHE WAS MOST OPPORTUNE. HE WOULD DISCUSS IT WITH THE ARCHBISHOP TODAY (MARCH 12). HE WAS SURE THE ARCHBISHOP WOULD HAVE THE SPEAKING NOTES "IN MIND" WHEN LATTER MET WITH PAPADOPOULOS AND ADVISERS
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TRIANAFYLLIDES AND SOULIOTI ON MARCH 14 FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF DETAILS OF VIENNA TATICS.

7. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE DEMARCHE TO CHRISTOPHIDES WAS MOST USEFUL. THERE IS A TENDENCY IN CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS FOR "UNDERSTANDINGS" TO SLIP AWAY AS DETAILS ARE WORKED OUT. DEMARCHE WILL HELP IN THIS RESPECT BECAUSE GOC IS NOW AWARE THAT USG IS MONITORING PROGRESS CLOSELY. PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANT IS FACT THAT OUR CHIEF POINT OF CONTACT IN GOC POLICY CIRCLES-- CHRISTOPHIDES-- NOW KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT WE EXPECT OF GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE. FINALLY, WE BELIEVE THIS NEW EXPRESSION OF US INTEREST WILL BE USEFUL TO MAKARIOS IN HIS EFFORTS TO PRODUCE A CONSENSUS IN COUNCIL ON THE RIGHT KIND OF GUIDELINES FOR GOC NEGOTIATION.
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